

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Central Office Conference Room
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, November 27, 2007
5:30 p.m. (Work Session)
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a special Board meeting on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 in the Central Office conference room. Those in attendance were: Chair, Dirk Reith; Directors: Dan Carver, Mike Rogers, Dick Pecor, and Paul Smith; Superintendent, Larry Waters; Colchester High School Principal Amy Minor; Colchester High School Assistant Principal Michael Clark, parents and student.

MINUTES (Work Session)

I. Call to Order

Chair Reith called the meeting (work session) to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Hear and Discuss a Student Matter (Anticipated Executive Session)

Chair Reith moved, seconded by Director Pecor to enter Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. to hear and discuss a student matter. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Smith moved, seconded by Director Pecor to exit executive session at 6:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Action as a Result of Executive Session

Director Carver moved, seconded by Chair Reith to accept the Superintendent's recommendation in regards to the student matter. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Adjourn

Director Carver moved, seconded by Chair Reith to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular Board meeting on Tuesday, November 27th, 2007 at the Colchester High School Library. Those in attendance were: Chair, Dirk Reith; Directors: Dick Pecor, Dan Carver, Mike Rogers, and Paul Smith; Student Representative Jessica Guter; Superintendent, Larry Waters; Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb; Principals: Amy Minor, John Barone, Barbara Nason, Jim Marshall, Chris Antonicci and 14 members of the community.

MINUTES (General Session)

I. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Reith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Act on Minutes of November 6th, and 15th 2007

Director Pecor moved, seconded by Director Carver to approve the minutes of November 6, and 15, 2007. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Citizen Participation

None

IV. School Board Communication, Committee Reports, Correspondence

Principal of Union Memorial School, Chris Antonicci gave the VT-DRA (Vermont Developmental Reading Assessment) results of UMS. There was a notable difference between the State of Vermont and Union Memorial School in which 98% of UMS students (97% boys, 98% girls) achieved a combination of standard and standard with honors, compared to 85% of students statewide. Principal of Porters Point School, Jim Marshall, introduced similar information for Porters Point School in which PPS had 92% (92% boys, 92% girls) of its students achieved a combination of standard and standard with honors. Both principals were encouraged with the lack of difference between the boys' scores and the girls' scores; showing the instruction was reaching both genders.

V. Hear CHS Field Trip- Human Rights to Alabama

Principal of Colchester High School, Amy Minor introduced the AP Teacher of U.S. History, Erin McGuire, to the Board; Erin is the teacher organizing the trip to Alabama. The field trip is ten days long (4/17/08 to 4/26/08), requiring students to miss two days of school, April 17th and 18th. An estimated cost of the field trip would be approximately \$850.00. The majority of the trip would be based in Birmingham, with day trips planned to Montgomery, and other locations that played a component in the civil rights movement. There will be an assignment for the students tying the trip together; each student will look at a different issue that effected the civil rights movement.

Director Smith moved, seconded by Director Pecor to approve the field trip request. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Hear Field Committee Reports

Mike Burke, a member of the Fields Committee presented two maps to the Board, and stated that the University of Maine survey team found no archeological resources on the purposed site. However, rare and endangered plants do exist on the site. In order to be able to disturb those rare and endangered plants, Colchester School District must adequately mitigate the loss of said plants. The Agency of Natural Resources requires that a plot of land be set aside to remain undisturbed that is at least twice as large as the one being disturbed, in this case that would require 36 acres. To go forward in getting an Act 250 permit CSD must be willing to have discussions with the ANR regarding a two-to-one easement; the Fields Committee came to the Board to ask permission to offer such an easement. The Board's only concern would be about the future use of the land being set aside. Mr. Burke assured the Board that CSD would be able to use the land in question as much as they currently do and no agreement would be made that would completely prohibit the district's use of the land in the easement. The Board came to a consensus that the Fields Committee should move forward with these discussions in

securing an Act 250 permit with the ANR.

VII. Hear and Discuss Enrollment Projections- Bill Smith

Bill Smith gave an overview of population numbers across Vermont, which is decreasing at about one percent per year. The discussion focused on what occurred in kindergarten last year, and why there was such a large decrease. Mr. Smith continued by saying that over the years Colchester is not a community that generally holds their children out of kindergarten, and then puts them into first grade the following year. Principals of Porters Point School and Union Memorial School, Jim Marshall and Chris Antonicci agreed that there generally is not a large jump, but they do receive an increase of around five to ten students from kindergarten to first grade each year. Director Pecor continued the discussion on what impact the voting down of ADK had with regard to parents not enrolling their kids in kindergarten as a form of protest. Mr. Smith informed the Board that more research needed to be done before any conclusions could be drawn regarding the low number of students in kindergarten this year. Bill Smith continued to say that kindergarten is the hardest year in school to predict, but on average Colchester has about an 80% capture rate from birth to kindergarten. The Board thanked Mr. Smith for his information and opinions.

VIII. Hear and Act on Second Reading of Building and Grounds Use Policy

Matt Granai, the volunteer youth basketball coach likes the new policy, but has a concern with how time is allocated. Mr. Granai doesn't believe that adult recreation groups should be given priority over youth not-for-profit groups when it comes to scheduling. Director Pecor said the Board understands his concern, but the district has a relationship with the Colchester Recreation Department that allows a give and take when the use of facilities is concerned. Director Smith noted some grammatical errors: the asterisks in # 1, 3, and 4 needs to be moved to after the word assessed, and in # 2 needs to be moved to after the word charged, also there should be no asterisk in #5. In appendix D, second bullet, it should read Colchester residents.

Director Pecor moved, seconded by Director Carver to approve the second reading of the Building and Grounds Use Policy, with edits, and to accept the policy as a final reading. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Hear Core Budget Presentation

Superintendent, Larry Waters introduced two options for All Day Kindergarten; the first option would give two sections of AKD, one at UMS and one at PPS. This option would cost the district an estimated \$96,400 but would force the district to have some sort of lottery for the spots in ADK. The second option would make all sections of all day kindergarten costing the district \$384,000, with some reallocations of FTE's, such as Medicare money, and the lack of a need for a midday bus for a net cost to the district as \$138,252. The Board was in agreement that option two was the best choice. Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb referred to the Budget Timeline to finalize the core budget. Mr. Trieb broke down the numbers for the FY 08/09 core budget, the largest increases coming from: support staff wages, cost of substitutes, student transport (largely special education transport), and increased cost in sending students from CHS to tech programs at Essex and Burlington. This puts the increase for the Core Budget at 9.27% up from the FY 07/08 budget. Superintendent, Larry Waters wanted to remind the Board this is not the recommended budget.

X. Hear Financial Report for October

Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb stated that the district has spent 26.06%, versus 25.56% at this point last year. The total commitments for the district are 65.78% versus 67.28% last year. Mr. Trieb also answered the question from a previous board meeting regarding interest expense versus interest earned, stating that the interest revenue will far exceed the forecasted budget.

XI. Act on Personnel Consent Agenda

Superintendent Waters presented the following consent agenda for approval:

ADMINISTRATOR

NEW HIRES:

Name	Position	Building
Jean Shea	Director of Student Support Services	CHS

RESIGNATIONS:

Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
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LEAVE REQUEST:

Name	Position	Building
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TEACHER

NEW HIRES:

Name	Position	Building
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RESIGNATIONS:

Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
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NON-RENEWAL

Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
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CHANGE IN FULL TIME EQUIVALENCY:

Name	Position	Building
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LEAVE REQUEST:

Name	Position	Building
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CO-CURRICULAR

CONTRACT OFFER:

Name	Position	Building
Christopher Davis-Fardelmann	Girls "B" Team Basketball Coach	CMS
Andrew Rousseau	Jazz Band Spring Performance	CMS

RESIGNATIONS:

Name	Position	Building
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SUPPORT STAFF

LEAVE REQUEST

Name	Position	Building	Admin. Support
Leslie St. Pierre	Instructional Tutor-SPED	MBS	yes
Jan Maltby	Instructional Tutor – ELL	CMS	no

POSITION DESCRIPTION(S)

SUPPORT STAFF INFORMATION

NEW HIRES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
Stephanie Pliskin	Non-Instructional Aide	MBS
Jenny Lafan	Instructional Tutor – EEE	UMS

RESIGNATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
Erin Langlois	Instructional Assistant – EEE	UMS
Cheri Hourigan	Instructional Assistant – SPED	PPS
Donna Hayes	Secretary – SPED Building	DW

TERMINATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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CHANGES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
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Director Pecor moved, seconded by Director Rogers to accept the personnel consent agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously

XII. Hear Possible Future Agenda Items

- **Budget Discussion**
- **Septic update at Union Memorial School**
- **Discussion about the Article Fund**
- **Bus to The Island, Tuition**
- **School choice**
- **Calendar for next year and the year after**

XIII. Adjourn

Director Carver moved, seconded by Director Rogers to adjourn at 9:15 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Mark Ellingson
Reporting Secretary

Michael Rogers